NOV 86

NORTHERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

W6NWG

# Scope

1936 - 1986

THE PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX 1603
VISTA, CALIFORNIA 92083-0530

VOL. XXI, NO., 11 NOVEMBER, 1986

PRESIDENT: Stan Rohrer, W9FQN, Valley Center 749-0276
VICE PRESIDENT: Larry de Montegre, WQ6V, Vista 726-0353
SECRETARY: Phil Leonelli, WF6L, Oceanside 757-7008
TREASURER: Ron Wilhelmy, WI6B, Rancho Santa Fe 756-3133
**********

---FROM THE PRESIDENT---

TASMA: At the October club meeting we were pleasantly surprised to receive from TASMA via Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, our ARRL Southwestern Division Director, an updated coordination for W6NWG/R on 146.730 mHz. This corrects an error made in 1972 by TASMA's predecessor, which we have tried to correct for 14 years. We were previously issued a coordination paper by TASMA, but the Old Timers felt the error needed correcting. Thanks to all who dug up old papers and documents in support of our efforts. And MANY THANKS TO TASMA for hearing out our verbal and written arguments. While this 1972 coordination paper really changes nothing in our coordination, it does correct some bad feelings the Club has had toward coordinating bodies, and renews our faith in the present TASMA organization.

NOTE RETIREMENT: We have retired $6,000 of the $9,000 repeater site note. For recently joined/re-joined club members, and for those of you who seem to have been unable to find the original mailed to all members, my letter asking for funds to retire the mortgage is reprinted in this issue of SCOPE. We'd like to hear from the other 60% of you.

AMATEUR RADIO STAMP PINS: If we can sell the remaining pins, we will be within $350 of completely retiring the note. If you can help by selling them to friends or by buying them for use for gifts, it will help to reach our goal. We're almost there. Let's finish it off!

THE K0JPK/R PROBLEM: PLEASE! We need your help with logs and tests on K0JPK/R. We know that some members do not monitor 146.730 because of the strong, grungy signal coming from that repeater. It is ridiculous to have a repeater to the north of us, interested in east-west coverage, transmitting such a strong signal to the south into San Diego County. Many of those attempting to use W6NWG/R are confused as to which machine they are using, and many club members are prevented from monitoring W6NWG/R by the un-squelchable signal from the north.

Please: 1.) Note signal strengths of K0JPK/R and W6NWG/R. 2.) Note power levels and antennas required to key up K0JPK/R. 3.) Record the calls of stations heard on K0JPK/R (difficult to do due to high activity on W6NWG/R). 4.) Note the difference in signal strength between K0JPK/R and other machines on 146.730 (I hear Palmdale, it has the beeper) but can squelch them out and I am unable to key them up as I do K0JPK/R.

Some evening after the traffic net, we will shut down W6NWG/R and encourage San Diego contacts through K0JPK/R . More information at the next club meeting. We have no written word from TASMA as to when K0JPK is going to conduct tests using his new antenna arrangement, but we have received

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oral communications to the effect that tests will be made.

CALIFORNIA--THE LAND OF FRUIT AND NUTS: We occasionally have jammers on the repeater. These nuts provide us with the opportunity to test our skills in hunting them down. If you have 2M direction finding equipment, including rotatable beam antennas, please send me your call, phone number, latitude and longitude (to the nearest tenth of a minute). We will try to include it on the next published map. Use the map in this issue as a master and run off 10 copies at your local copy shop. Use different copies to record the different types of recurring interference. Label each vector with time and date. When we get some interesting areas, we will stake them out and start working with local maps. Good luck es 73.

de Stan, W9FQN

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MEMBERSHIP IN THE PALOMAR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB is $12 per year with no initiation fee, and includes a subscription to SCOPE. Family memberships are $12 for the first, and $9.00 for each subsequent member at the same address. Annual SCOPE subscriptions are $3.00. Membership matters, changes of address, subscription matters: P.O. Box 1603, Vista, CA 92083-0530.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Lincoln Middle School between East Vista Way and Eucalyptus on Escondido in Vista. Parking is available in the main lot accessible from East Vista Way; and in the City Hall parking lot across Escondido from the School. Talk in on 146.730. Visitors are welcome.

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## NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING

THE PROGRAM FOR THE EVENING WILL BE: The Annual Auction. Each member may bring 2-3 items tagged with callsign and minimum bid (if any). Don't bring junque! Good stuff only. There will also be a silent auction of small stuff. Here's your chance to get rid of it and get some new stuff!

SHOW AND TELL will feature the new dual-band Yaesu HT WI6B didn't get to show us last time, and any other goodies you want to show off.

COFFEE AND THE USUAL NO-CAL GOODIES by Vina and all of us kind enough to bring some of those tasty non-fattening little mouth-watering jewels! Vina says thanks to all those who have helped; and that she still needs help.

## OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

At the October club meeting our guest speaker was Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, ARRL Southwestern Division Director, who presented the Club with a Certificate of Cooordination from the Two-meter Spectrum Management Association (TASMA) showing that W6NWG/R has been coordinated on 146.130-146.730 mHz since September, 1972. Fried also brought word from TASMA that K0JPK has replied to TASMA's requirement for a change in antenna to protect the area to the south (San Diego County, etc.) and would be running coordination tests. Club members were asked to identify the repeaters (other than W6NWG/R) heard on 146.730 mHz and to log callsigns of stations heard on those repeaters. Fried then presented two excellent video tapes, one "A conversation with Don Wallace, W6AM" and the other Part 2 of "Hams in Space". The minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer's report were read and approved. W9FQN reported that 40% of the membership had responded to his letter asking for donations to buy the discounted note on the Club's mountaintop repeater site. WI6B reported that the Club had already taken in enough money through donations and the sale of the Amateur Radio Commemorative Stamp pins to pay off $5,000 on the note; and that if all the remaining pins were to be sold at $5 each, the note could be paid

in full. The meeting was well attended, and many members had a chance to meet Clint, W6OFT, and Eleanore, WB6OJL. Clint wore his "turtle shell" and was the "belle of the ball". Jack Hanthorn, KI6JM former W6HXE, and a PARC member in the early '60s was present, as was Jack, W6QP, who hasn't been at a meeting since "'02, before the '03 came out".

TASTIES and coffee were provided by Vina and others and were delicious!

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee, consisting of the Club's officers and committee chairmen, meets on the second Thursday of the month at the home of various of its members. Without fail, the meetings usually start at 7:30 of the p.m. Club members are welcome to attend and observe.

It was a dark and rainy night for the October meeting, which was held at the home of WQ6V. The Committee directed the treasurer to disburse $1,000 toward payment of the Repeater Site Note. The Committee also heard from Burr, WA6VYD, who told of a proposal to put an ATV repeater in the PARC repeater building and of a proposal to join forces with the Fallbrook Repeater Association (a 450 mHz group) in linking our 450 mHz repeater into their system. Burr was appointed chairman of a committee to look into both proposals and to act as liaison with the Fallbrook Repeater Association, of which he is also a member. The Committee decided to hold the Club's 1987 picnic in Brengle Terrace Park on the 4th Sunday in August and directed K6HAV to make the reservation. The demise of the Sunday morning A.R.E.S. net for lack of a net manager and net control stations was discussed. The perpetual problem of K0JPK/R's interference into our coverage area and the necessity for logging the interference was discussed, as was the possibility of a TASMA authorization for a K0JPK/R test for coordination (nothing in writing to that effect has been received from TASMA). The Committee heard from WF6L concerning a letter requesting funds from SANDARC for equipment for the Fallbrook Junior High School Amateur Radio Class.

## REPEATER

See the President's message regarding logging K0JPK/R. IF K0JPK/R IS GRANTED COORDINATION FOR 146.730 MHZ, WE WILL BE STUCK WITH THINGS AS THEY ARE AT THE TIME OF COORDINATION! So let's be sure we aren't "locked-in" to a situation where the unsquelchable signal of that repeater is with us forever. We don't want to put K0JPK/R off the air; we just don't want to hear its signals throughout San Diego County!

## EXPIRING FCC LICENSES

Licenses expiring In November: W6OKG. In December: W6FAY, W4NYU, W6PNT, WA6MOS, N6NA, KA8OUD. In January: NG6Z, N6IE, W6JSP, W2FWV, W9KEX.

## FORESAIL

(The halyard, ya say!)

From the estate of W6HAW: Late model Atlas 210X, $175; Westcom 2M 15/80W amp, $100; Kenwood TS-930S w/AT, cw filter & SP-930 spkr w/audio filters, $1200; Tristao CT840588 5-section 88'guyed crank-up tower w/guy lines, $800; Hy-Gain TH-7 tri-band antenna, $400; Astron RS-20A pwr supply, $65; Telrex 40M329 3-elm 40M beam, $600; Hy-Gain 5-elm 20M beam, $250; Loads of small stuff: CB xcvrs, Miller low pass filter, Heath remote coax switch, Siltronix watt/swr meter, Hustler mobile antenna, Hustler BTV-5 5-band vertical ant., 300' of 8-conductor rotator cable, Saxon 8283 RG-8/U foam coax, coax switches, Swan Mobile antenna etc. Call Buck, WW6E, 941-0867.

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vertical ant., 300' of 8-conductor rotator cable, Saxon 8283 RG-8/U foam coax, coax switches, Swan Mobile antenna etc. Call Buck, WW6E, 941-0867.

Three 4' fiberglass microwave dishes w/pole mount in xlnt condx, $100 ea. One 5' green fiberglass dish, no mount, $75 or trade. Call Larry, WQ6V, 726-0353.

1) Commodore 1541 disc drive, 9" BPF scope, pwr supply, 2) Kantronics terminal unit, manuals and cables. Multi 2000 all mode, Yaesu mike, Ringo Ranger ant., manuals, 100' RG8/U. 3) Mosley 3-elm beam, CDE rotor, 95' of 10-wire control cable. Complete groups only. Call Wil, W2FWV, 436-3277.

Complete station: Kenwood TS-520S w/digital display and remote VFO, PC-1 phone patch, MC-50 mike; Heathkit SA-2060A, electronic keyer; Bencher paddle; Autex Research SSB/CW/AM filter QF-1A; Kantronics RTTY/CW interface w/ VIC-20 cartridge; 40-10M vertical; prefab dipole (unopened); and more, $400. Call Pete, W6OKG, or Alan 728-4106.

Drake TR4C, VFO, ps, and mike. Clean. Call Hal, W6DOL, 271-5939.

Kenwood TS-930S w/AT. Turner 444 mike, like new. Johnson KW Matchbox w/swr meter. Call Ralph, K6HAV, 727-5866.

Yaesu FT-227RA 10W 2M mobile, $125; S-40B rx, $40; Heath SA-2040 2KW tuner, $95; Johnson Matchbox, $50; Johnson Viking II xmtr, $45; TAPR packet radio TNC-1, $120; and other estate items. Call Duane, AA6EE, 789-3674.

Drake TR-4 HF xcvr w/home brew pwr supply; Drake RV-4 remote VFO; Drake MC-4 mobile spkr & watt meter; Drake DC-4 mobile pwr supply; Drake WV-4 watt meter; Dentron 1500 watt universal antenna tuner; Ameco rcvr pre-amp; Home brew 2KW PEP GG linear amp. w/pair of 4-400s and spares and pwr supply; 2-elm Gem quad tri-band antenna; Alliance rotator and control; coax and control cables and all cables and manuals for Drake equipment; Heath monitor scope. Call Bill Welsh, W6TIW, 439-6526.

Tempo S-5 2M HT, $100; Heathkit Apache TX-1 HF tx, $40; Gonset 6N2 tx, $15; Scanner, $40; Hallicrafter S-38, $20; Heathkit SB-100 xcvr, $100; Heath HW-2036 2M xcvr, $100; SWR bridges, $10-$20; test equipment (o'scopes, sig gens, tube testers, etc); and many other hard to find quality items parts by the bucketful, cheap, cheep. Talk to W9FQN at 749-0276.

## WANTED

8'-10' pipe fence posts to fence the tower at the repeater site.

ALDA 103 maintenance manual to borrow and copy. Bill, N6COU, 758-7163.

## NEW MEMBERS, REENLISTMENTS, UP-GRADES, NEW CALL SIGNS

GNU CLUB MEMBERS: Alan Toth, WA6HHC, Vista; Bill Rutledge, N6FYJ, Escondido; Walter Coates, WB6NUY, Oceanside; Jim Franklin, KF6QH, Vista; Richard Garren, K6GAK, El Cajon; Jack Hanthorn, KI6JM, Vista; Chuck Dowling Jr., KB6KSQ, San Diego; David and Christine Loar, WA7OWU & N7EQQ, San Diego; J.G. Baston, K6CV, San Diego; and John Kent, NW6W, Carlsbad. Welcome, we're glad to have you with us.

RE-NUDE CLUB MEMBERS: N6FSQ, N6KGK, NU6L, KA6QFF, W6QP, W6WPO.

GNU/CHANGE OF CALL SIGN: Ron, WV6Q from N6MOY.

CORRECTION: We listed Ted Dean, KA6LFJ, with an incorrect call sign.

## LATEST STRAIGHTEST FROM THE SAN DIEGO OFFICE OF THE FCC
(At 4542 Ruffner Street, San Diego, CA 92111-2216)

The San Diego office imposed a civil fine of $750 on Jerry Gastil, K6DYD, an Extra Class operator, of Point Loma, for operating a pirate broadcast station using the unauthorized call sign KIWI, and identifying himself as "Doctor Demento". The Communications Act of 1934 provides for civil fines of up to $2,000 per day for a total amount not to exceed $5,000.

If you have RFI problems on your telephone, the FCC Field Operations Bureau has published Bulletin FO-10, Telephone Interference, to help you solve the problem. It is directed at both the telephone owner and the service technician. A copy will be available at the next club meeting.
(Thanks to June Butler, Public Service Specialist, phone 619 293-5478)

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FCC LICENSE EXAMINATIONS in north county are conducted by PARC examiners, under the auspices of SANDARC-VEC at the Joslyn Senior Center, (behind the City Hall) 111 Richmar Ave., San Marcos on the second Saturday of the month starting at 10:00 a.m.

Examinations are also given on the 1st Saturday at Normal Heights United Methodist Church, 4560 Mansfield St., San Diego; on the 3rd Saturday at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 2605 Morningside Dr., San Diego; and on the 4th Saturday at Bostonia Recreation Center, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon, and at a place to be announced in Escondido.

Applicants for examination must send a S.A.S.E., a completed, signed NEW Form 610 (PHOTO-COPIES ARE NOT BE ACCEPTABLE) and a copy of their license and code certificate, if any, to SANDARC-VEC, Post Office Box 5023, La Mesa, CA 92014 ten days prior to the testing date. New 610s may be obtained from the FCC. Applicants MUST BRING their ORIGINAL LICENSE AND CODE CERTIFICATE (if any) with them.

OFFICIAL CLUB BADGES are available from John Tentor, W6OLQ. Unfortunately, he does require money and also feels it only fitting that you provide him with your name and call sign if you want them on your very own badge - like the big guys have.

ADS & MATERIAL FOR SCOPE to P.O.Box 73, Vista, CA 92083-0030. Deadline is normally Monday of the week two weeks before the club meeting.

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VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS PROGRAM

Our October session played to mixed reviews. We tested seven and had six failures and three successes. Charles Littlefield, N6MOU, a PARC member, is to be congratulated for up-grading to Advanced.

Our examiner team consisted of W6YYV, WQ6V, and WO6U, examiners; W6DEY administering the CW examinations; WA6KZN handling the reception and processing; and K6HAV as team leader.

We were also visited by Harley Gabrielson, K6DS, the head of the SANDARC-VEC program who had with him a computer program (for the C-64/128) to assist in studying for the written portion of the FCC license examinations which could also be used to administer the examinations. We were impressed after seeing the program run.

de Pat, N6INN

**********

THREE REPEATERS, all W6NWG/R, are owned and operated by the Club. One has an input of 146.130 mHz and an output of 146.730 mHz. Input for another is 444.425 mHz and output is 449.425 mHz. The third is a packet radio digipeater on 145.050 mHz. All are on the Club's property on Mount Palomar at about 5,600'; and are open repeaters for club members and occasional and transient users. Repeater control operators are: KB6AI, W9FQN, K6HAV, WA6KZN, KB5MU, K6ROR, WQ6V.

THE CLUB'S POLICY REGARDING INTERFERENCE ON THE REPEATERS IS to IGNORE IT! Don't give the jammer what he or she craves - notice and attention. Carry on your QSO or sign off or move to simplex, but do NOT acknowledge the

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crazies. At the same time, try and hear the interfering signal on the input of the repeater and, if posssible, determine the direction from which it is coming.

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SICK CALL

Nate, K2RTQ, suffered a heart attack and managed to call ou on the repeater for help. Dennis, N6KI, answered the call and called the neighbor Nate wanted called. The neighbor, who knew how to get to Nate's, called 911 and got a Life Flight chopper in to the trailer and got him stabilized until an ambulance could reach him. Nate's home now and back on the air.

Earl, W6YYV, reports that he was swollen up like a poisoned pup with the hives a as result of a reaction to some medication, but managed to recover in time to take part in the October VE test session without frightening the applicants any more than usual.

Dick, W6IUG, is reported to be recovering from the heart attack he suffered last month.

EDITORIAL

We are proud to note that of the members who received the W9FQN letter asking for funds to help buy, at much reduced price, the note on the Club's mountaintop repeater site, better than 40% responded. Granted, not all of that 40+% responded affirmatively to the President's request, but at least they responded. The average donation was nicely over the necessary $35. A much better response than is normal for this type of fund drive. Of course, hams are not the average, and this is especially true of our club members, who have historically delivered the goods when called on in time of need. Just look at all of the donations of labor and material when it was time to install that beautiful 70' tower on Mount Palomar!

A few more donations and we will have the purchase of the note completed and will have saved the Club something in the neighborhood of $15,000 in principal and interest. This is money we can much better use over the years to refurbish and add to our equipment; and to improve our emergency capabilities. Let's go ahead with this and get it over with once and for all and end the 30 years of mortgage payments!

DOWN THE TOOBE

Al, N6GNB, thanks Floyd, W6JSP, and Merit, W6NLO, of WESTCOM for their recent donation of a 2M station w/power supply for use in the R.A.C.E.S.-A.R.E.S. station at the Escondido Police Station.

Speaking of W6NLO, it's good see Merit at our club meetings again.

Pat, N6INN, spent several busy days and nights handling El Salvador earthquake traffic. It made me stir my stumps and get the balun back on the big beam; and the amplifier hooked up. Maybe something else will come along to move me into getting an electrician to run the 220VAC line into the shack so that we can get the beeeeg amplifier on . . . . . .

Judy Parmigiani, N6LSO, (previously KA6MLY) a club member in 1981 was also very active in handling the El Salvador traffic and as NCS on the 20M emergency net for the El Salvador traffic

Thanks to Carl Pagel, N6BVU, the Secretary of TASMA, for his contribution of Automobile Club phone numbers for emergency use and for a copy of packet route maps from the SANDPAC newsletter.

"That's all," she wrote.

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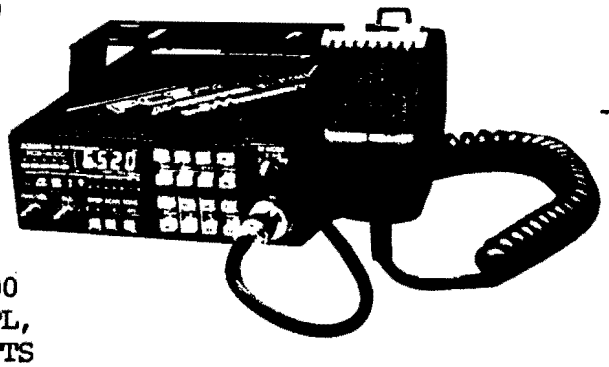
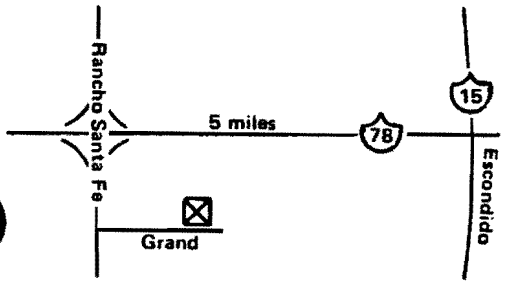
# WESTCOM

Mon. Fri.: 9:30 - 5:00
Sat: 9:30 - 2:00



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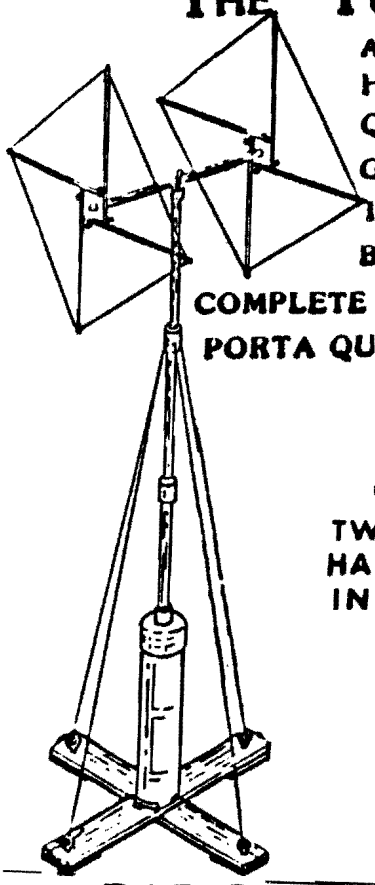

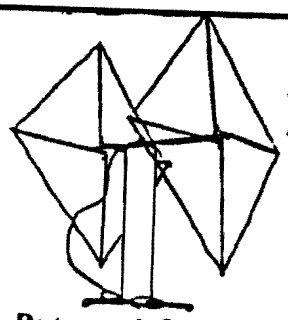

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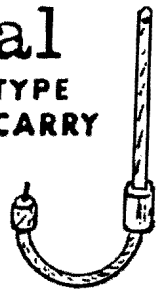

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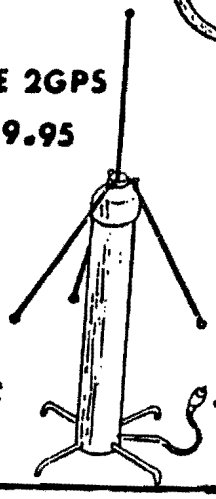

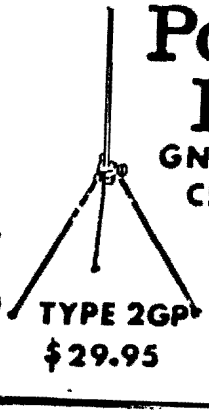

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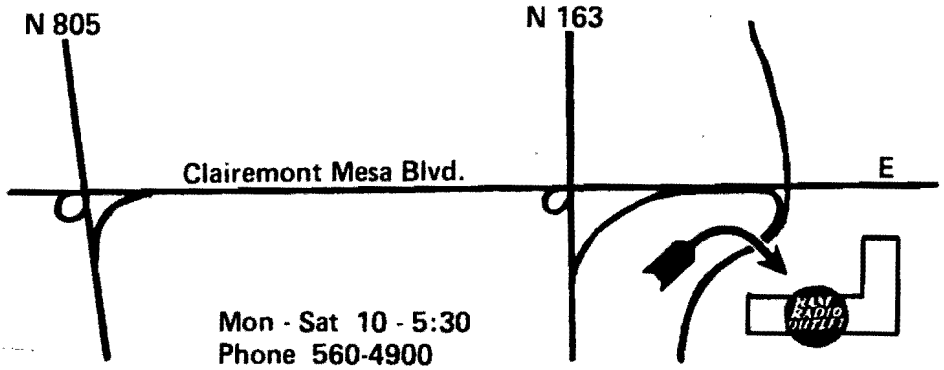
HAM RADIO OUTLET

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(619) 722-1175



The original R-X Noise Bridge

SWR AND POWER METER

UNIVERSAL AUDIO FILTER

VLF CONVERTERS

Palomar Engineers

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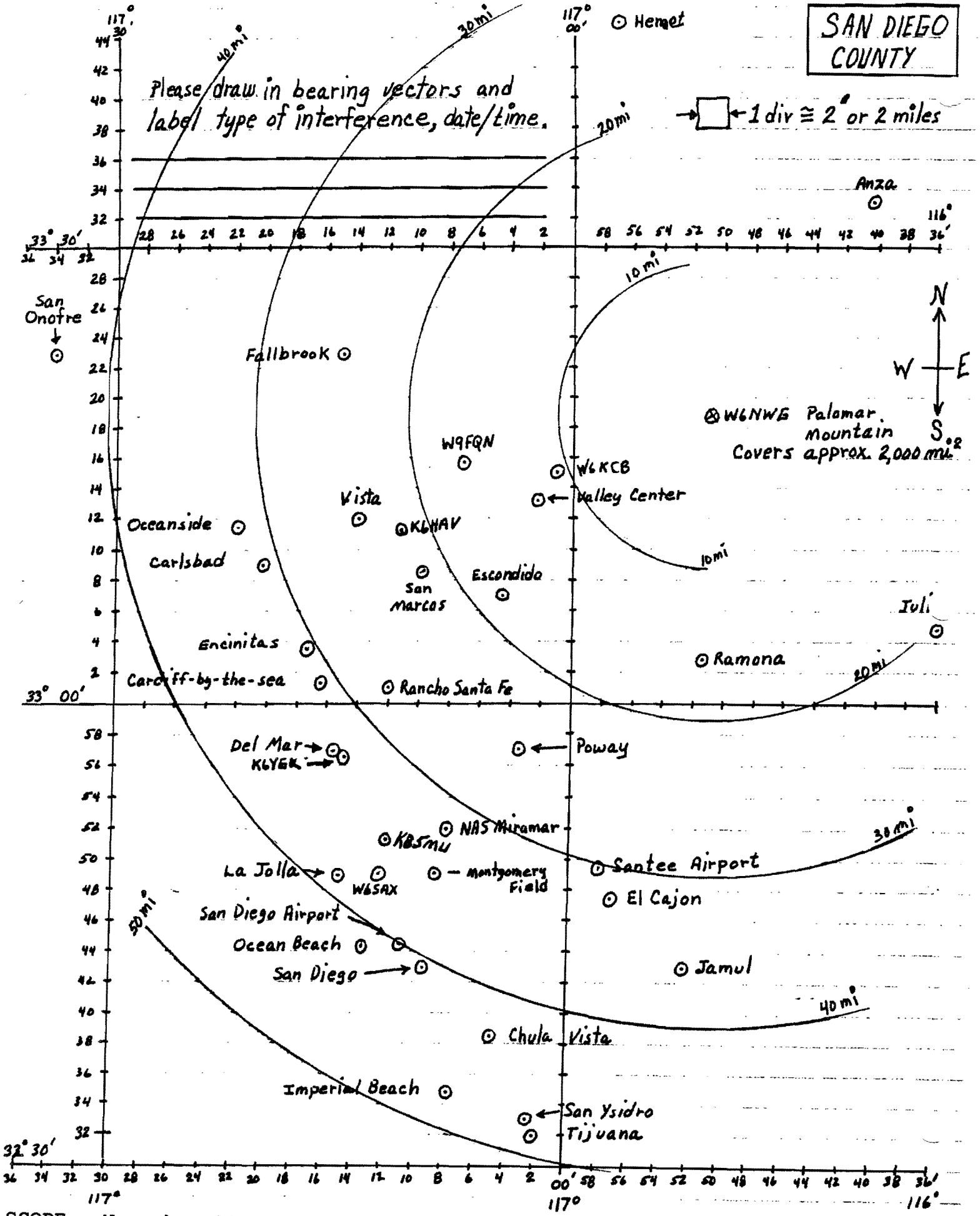
Nov 86


SAN DIEGO COUNTY
Please draw in bearing vectors and label type of interference, date/time.
1 div ≅ 2" or 2 miles
Hemet
Anza
San Onofre
Fallbrook
W9FQN
W6KCB
Valley Center
Vista
KL6HAV
Oceanside
Carlsbad
San Marcos
Escondido
Encinitas
Cardiff-by-the-sea
Rancho Santa Fe
Ramona
Julian
W6NWG Palomar Mountain
Covers approx. 2,000 mi.²
Del Mar
KL6YGK
Poway
NAS Miramar
KB5MU
La Jolla
W6SAX
Montgomery Field
Santee Airport
El Cajon
San Diego Airport
Ocean Beach
San Diego
Jamul
Chula Vista
Imperial Beach
San Ysidro
Tijuana
10 mi
20 mi
30 mi
40 mi
50 mi
N
W
E
S

Nov 86

# PALOMAR ARC INC

1936 PARC 50 YEARS 1986

P.O.Box 1603, Vista, CA 92083-0530
Ph (619)749-0276

August 27, 1986

Dear Club Member :

During the past 3-4 months I have tried to keep the membership advised at club meetings and through the SCOPE as to the possibility of paying off the repeater site $18,000 note. I am pleased to inform you that we have been notified that the club can obtain the note for $9,000 which will retire the loan forever and the Club will own the property outright, free and clear of any encumbrances. This would also end our payments of $119 per month due for the next 17 years. Over the next 17 years we would be paying about $24,000 of which $16,000 would be principal and $8,000 interest. Buying the note now would save the club about $15,000.

We will need to move rapidly. The Executive Committee has directed me to send you this special letter and we would sincerely appreciate your immediate response. If $35 were contributed by each Club member, we would have the needed funds. Some members are financially capable of contributing considerably more than that sum while others cannot or may not contribute. Each member should let his or her conscience be his or her guide. Your contribution is not only a contribution to PARC but to Amateur Radio in San Diego County. Contributions will be acknowledged by a plaque to be placed in the repeater blockhouse on Palomar Mountain for posterity.

Please complete the following form and return it as soon as possible.

73's, Stan Rohrer, W9FQN, PARC President

Stan Rohrer

File 1 copy

Nov 86

_____(name) _____(callsign)

_____(name) _____(callsign)

(address)_____

amount enclosed_____

signature_____

signature_____

(OR)

I am unable to enclose a donation at this time but I will provide you with my donation soon.

_____(amount)

_____(approximate date)

_____(signature)

(OR)

I will not be forwarding a donation and would appreciate no further contact with respect to paying off the Note referred to above.

_____(signature)

Should the responses to this "passing of the hat" exceed the needed $9,000 sum, you should let your club know whether :

1. PARC may retain my prorata balance of the amount received in excess of $9,000 and it shall be credited to the Club's _____ fund (ie, equipment or general fund).

2. I would like to have my prorata share of any amount in excess of $9,000 returned to me by PARC.

_____(signature)

If you have questions, please call me(W9FQN 749-0276), Ralph(K6HAV 727-5866) or Ron(WI6B 756-3133).

NOV 86

THE NORTH COUNTY TRAFFIC NET is operated by the Club, and meets nightly on 146.730 mHz (-600 kHz) at 2000 local to handle formal written traffic. Visitors are welcome. Net control stations and liaison stations are needed. Apply to Joe, WB6HMY.

THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY PACKET RADIO VOICE NET meets on 146.730 mHz each Tuesday at 2100. This net is to provide information on Packet Radio for the beginner and the advanced packeteer. All are welcome. Paul, KB5MU, is net control station.

SURPLUS GOODIES of the electronic pursuasion at HIGHWAY COMPANY in the plain, unmarked white building at 305 W. Wisconsin Ave., Oceanside. See their ad in this issue. Aluminum, brass, copper, stainless steel, etc. at Escondido Sales at 1428 Mission Rd., Escondido. Electronic, mechanical, computer parts, nicads at Industrial Liquidators, 683 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., San Marcos; and 4887 Convoy St., San Diego, and at Gateway Electronics, 4633 Convoy St.

ELECTRONICALLY ORIENTED FLEA MARKETS ARE: the ham-computer-electronics swap meet in the San Diego Stadium parking lot 0700-1100 on the first Saturday of the month. The TRW ARC flea mart at the corner of Compton and Aviation Blvd. in Manhattan Beach on the last Saturday of the month from 0800 to 1100. On the 2nd Saturday in Cucamonga in the General Dynamics parking lot east of Haven on Fourth Ave, starting at 0700.

U.S. Postal Service

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*Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)*

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RALPH B. CROSSMAN, EDITOR
*(See instruction on reverse)*

PS Form 3526, Dec. 1985

Nov 86

## BYTES 'N PIECES

By Paul Williamson, KB5MU

The FCC has made it legal for amateur radio stations to handle thir party traffic under automatic control on frequencies above 50 mHz using AX.25 packet protocol, on a permanent basis. Since March 14, this has been legal under a temporary waiver of the rules. Both the waiver and this permanent ruling were in response to a Petition for Partial Reconsideration of FCC docket 85-105 filed by ARRL. Docket 85-105 made automatic operation legal for digital operations on VHF and above. Until 85-105, unattended digipeaters relied on a tenuous interpretation of the rules permitting automatic control of "repeaters", or required a remote control link.

This ruling is good because it allows us to use the automated network (as it develops) for such things as NTS radiogram traffic. Without the capability to handle third party traffic, the network is little more than a toy for the techies. With the Capability, it can be an important communications tool.

FCC says it is deferring action on HF automatic control "until its feasibility can be determined". This probably means that the pending STA for a few HF BBSs will have to run its course (usually six months) before the FCC considers this subject again. The requirement that AX.25 protocol be used is also rather unfortunate in that it may discourage experimentation with more advanced protocols. Virtually all packet in this country uses AX.25 anyway, so it shouldn't be a paractical problem in the short term.

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